

Washington, DC-Congressman Ciro D. Rodriguez (TX-23) today announced \$999,837 in funding for the San Antonio Independent School District (SAISD) from the *Teaching American History Grants Program* T

. The program is funded by the US Department of Education and serves to increase academic achievement, historical literacy, and college readiness.

"As a former teacher, I believe that funding programs that will allow our teachers to better serve their students is critical to educating our kids," said Rodriguez. "This program will help teachers better prepare San Antonio students for college."

In San Antonio, the *Teaching American History Grants Program* provides a comprehensive three year professional development program to prepare teachers in the SAISD to teach traditional American history and to increase teachers' content knowledge of the subject. In order to positively impact the academic achievement of SAISD students in regular, Pre-AP U.S. History, and Advanced Placement United States History, teachers will study the people, ideas, events, and turning points that contributed to the development of the American experience.

Teachers will increase their knowledge of how to teach writing at a higher level using document based questions in United States History as per the College Board requirements. This project would also establish a team of teachers in middle and high school (years one and two) and Grade 5 elementary teachers (year three) to collaborate on strategies to improve teaching instruction and academic achievement in traditional American History across grade levels.

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